

# EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

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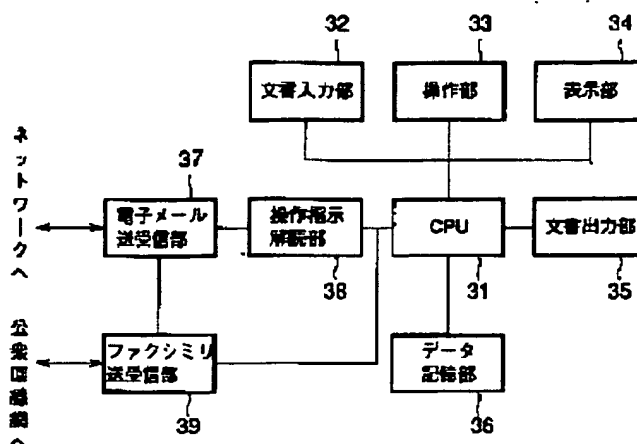
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TITLE : DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT DEVICE



ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To execute the registration, retrieval and acquisition of document and the return of results by transmitting/receiving electronic mails (E mails) between general personal computers or portable information terminals.

SOLUTION: The document management device is provided with an E mail transmitting/receiving part 37 for transmitting/receiving E mails to/from another terminal through a network and an operation instruction decoding part 38 for decoding whether the contents of a received mail is an instruction manual request, document registration, document retrieval, or document acquisition. The device is also provided with a CPU 31 for returning an operation instruction manual of previously determined format to the other terminal in the case of an instruction manual request, executing document registering processing in a data storage part 36 and returning the registered result to the terminal in the case of an operation instruction manual for document registration, executing document retrieving processing in the data storage part 36 and returning the retrieved result to the terminal in the case of an operation instruction manual for document retrieval, and executing document acquiring processing from the data storage part and returning the acquired result to the terminal in the case of an operation instruction manual for document acquisition.

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